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May 9, 2001 LB 620

debate for three times of speaking to give you some time to draft this and look at that and see if you can combine all those. Would that be acceptable?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, and, Mr. Speaker, we'll save a lot of time and a lot of aggravation, so...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...I'll get right with it.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm sorry for the short delay. I've had several questions with people as we draw closer to the end of Select File on this issue. What...the question is, what does the bill really do? If I had to go back to my town hall meeting and say, what does Invest Nebraska do, the best I can tell you, to give you a little history, in the mid-eighties we did LB 775 and that was done with a company basically saying unless you give us some tax incentives we're leaving this state. I don't think there's anyone who has been in public life or who's watched the state's political landscape in the last 15 years that does not know LB 775 by its bill Great controversy, great anguish, difficult times in the Legislature. If you want to invoke a fight in my district or a number of your districts, you mention LB 775 and you get the hackles up with some people. As we moved into the early nineties we had the opportunity to bring in some other businesses and we looked at a package called Micron. Micron was sort of threefold. It did some wage credits. In other words, you hired new people, some of the withholding that those people had, instead of going to the state, their withholding would go to the company for their usage. And there was a discount on utilities, allowing a different pricing for large companies on their natural gas and some of their electric, I believe. But it certainly was a...a package of bills designed to give an incentive to attract a new company to come. bills, we did those in the middle of session. We worked late We stopped. We were under a deadline and, ultimately, that company did not come to Nebraska. The Quality Jobs portion of that, that has been amended and changed in a couple of different ways over the years and has been used by a number of